

The DX Bulletin

ISSUE 73 JANUARY 19, 1981

HOT NEWS? CALL THE DX BULLETIN: 203-871-6251; LEAVE A MESSAGE!

PROPAGATION: January 17, 18, High Normal; Jan. 19, High/Above Normal; Jan. 20, Above Normal; Jan. 21, 22, High/Above Normal; Jan. 23, High Normal; Jan. 24, High/Above Normal; Jan. 25, 26, 27, High Normal; Jan. 28, High/Low Normal; Jan. 29, 30, 31, Feb. 1, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

GOODIES

Ian, VK4NIC/3X, has been back on from Guinea's capitol city since his return from holiday vacation Dec. 31. His new Yaesu remote VFO is said to be "not performing properly," so he still cannot work split frequency. He is still working only 10 and 15 SSB, and he will move quickly to another frequency when the pileup gets too big.

Ian sent documentation for his operating to 9G1RT (a visitor in Guinea early in December); from there the papers were forwarded to QSL manager W4FRU, thence to DXCC in Newington for examination. At this time credit for DXCC is still not being given.

Karl Renz, K4YT, is reportedly beginning an African operating stint late this month, with Guinea to be his first stop; Karl may have another Yaesu remote VFO to replace the broken one (see K4YT story elsewhere in this issue).

Guiseppe, 60ØDX (I2YDX) has been back on the air from Somalia for about two weeks, reported only on 20 Meters SSB thus far. His signal is about the same as it was the past two operations, i.e., weak but workable. Many still await QSLs from the earlier operations. The cards have been coming from manager I2YAE for SSB contacts and from I2YDX for CW contacts, although all cards are to be sent to I2YAE. 60ØDX QSLs are not yet accepted in Newington for DXCC.

Dave Schoen, N2KK, has not been heard since his one day of operating from the South Sudan as 6UØKK. He was going to try again for N. Yemen, and if no luck there hoped to have no trouble getting on from Lebanon. As Dave's travels are a business venture, he normally completes his stay in each country regardless of whether he has amateur radio operating permission. His complete itinerary (with operating times) was in Issue 62.

Dave Shaw, who was to be VK9ZG's replacement on Willis Island, has not shown on the bands yet; VK9ZG left the island early December. Shaw was to be a brand-new ham and scheduled to stay on Willis about six months.

ZL3AFH/A, Campbell Island, has not been reported on for several weeks; he was operating 20 Meters CW around 0700Z back in December, and was to be on the island for at least several months. He is also a new ham and was working CW slowly but methodically, apparently without split frequency capabilities. Ref. TDXB 69.

Word on the VK9NS Heard Island venture continues to be guardedly positive, with a date of February 15 being mentioned. It is not clear if this is the starting date for the operation or for the ship to leave for Heard. It is a two-week ride from port of departure to Heard itself.

TDXB has sent several queries to the Royal Jordanian Society concerning the rumored operation late January from Iraq. No response has been forthcoming. Hostilities between Iraq and Iran have let up but not ceased entirely; it does not seem likely at this time that an operation by outsiders would be approved by a country at war.

It has now been almost four months since the latest coup in Turkey; activity from there has been greater the past month or so than ever before, with several stations reported mainly on 10 Meters SSB, especially on the DK20C gathering on 28750 at 1200Z. The Turkish amateurs who are on are some of the fastest QSLers around, answering cards in a matter of days from receipt.

Moussa, 3B8AE/3B9, has been very active, especially on 10 Meters SSB; he anticipates a Rodriguez Island stay of about two months. QSLs sent to his home address on Mauritius will be answered eventually, but he has been suggesting that for faster service cards be sent to him on Rodriguez (adr. elsewhere in this issue).

It was reported on one of the "nets" that the group of VPBs rumored going to S. Sandwich early in January actually made their departure and subsequently lost the r boat prop and were beached in Montevideo for repairs. We consider this source highly dubious, however.

CORRECTION

TDXB Issue 72, January 12, 1981, page 2, the reference to former ARRL Central Division Director Don Miller should have given his call sign as W9NTP. There are two important Dr. Don Millers; the other one is W9WNV, a famous 1960's DXer. The editor regrets the error.

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G3JKI will not be returning to Libya in the immediate future; Libyan troops have invaded Chad and the status of both countries is in doubt at this time. G3JKI/5A QSLs are still being answered, and DXCC acceptance is yet to be granted.

While Jim Bullington, N4HX, is still at the U.S. mission in Benin, he has been virtually nonexistent on the bands. We have not seen a report on him for months. (See K4YT story to follow).

Tom Gallagher, N6RA, will operate the ARRL CW Contest (end of February) from Guernsey, signing GU4CHY. After that he and his wife will be on the French island of St. Barthelemy and operate as FG0FOO/FS Mar. 2-23, including the ARRL Phone DX Competition.

4N7TT will be on from Belgrade until April, in commemoration of the World Table Tennis Games. QSL to YU7AJH. And no, we have not yet heard 4N7FP.

A letter from PY7ZZ came in too late to include in Issue 72, concerning their Fernando de Noronha operations...PY7ZZ and PY7CW (PY7CW). But TDXB did alert you in time. QSLs go to the respective PY7 Callbook addresses. Fred (PY7ZZ) says there is some difficulty in exchanging IRCs at the Brazilian postal offices, and currency works better, but they will honor IRCs. These two were all over the bands last week, even working U.S. novices on 15 Meters.

K4YT, Karl Renz, will begin another African tour the end of January. He plans a number of five-day stops, including VK4NIC/3X, 5T5DX, 6W8JO, D4, C5ACO, J5, 9L1, T2, XT, 5U7, TU, 9G1, 5V7KR, and either TY9ER or N4HX/TY. As in the past, QSL manager for these operations will be Karl's Brother Bob Renz, W2TK.

VS6CT and VS6JR are said to be planning a Macao activation Feb. 4-8, using CR9CT on Vphone and CR9C on CW, QSL managers being G3KDB and KB9N respectively....

QSLs from the USSR have been coming via unusual routes lately. A handful of luckies have got Franz Josef Land UK1PAL cards mailed direct from Moscow in their supplied envelopes. However, UA1OSM, who had been handling all the F.J.L. cards, is reported off the air for the time being, reason not known. Also, some have received UI8QAA cards from I8YGE, but it is not clear if these will be accepted for DXCC. Probably they will be.

The complete ARRL DX Advisory Committee roster for 1981 is: W1OT, W2QN, K3KA (new), KP4AM (new), K5YY (Chairman), N6RJ, K7LAY, WB8EUN, N9MM, W9SR, and VE3QA. N4MM is Board of Directors liaison and W3AZD is Hq. liaison.

A new "Worked All CE" award is offered by the Radio Club of Chile (the only award they presently sponsor). You must work and confirm all ten call districts, CE1-CE9. Your application will consist of a complete list, and a certification by your national society (known as a GCR) that you have the QSLs. All contacts to have been made from the same DXCC country. Send with 8 IRCs to Awards Manager, Radio Club de Chile, Casilla N°13630, Santiago de CHILE.

ARRL's National Convention, Mar. 13-15 in Orlando, Florida, will also feature the meeting of the Board of Directors and a DX Forum sponsored by the Central Florida DX Association. Many Snowbird DXers are expected at the gathering (despite the fact that the temperature in Orlando dropped to 20 degrees F. last week!). As the list of speakers and dignitaries is compiled their calls will appear here. There will, of course, be hospitality suites both Friday and Saturday evenings.

Les Vanessen, SN6ENV, just got his Nigerian license after a ten-year wait. He reports a spate of new 5N calls can be expected on the bands in the near future, perhaps as many as 75, as the authorities have decided to act on a number of applications which have been pending for a long time. Since Dave, SN6DOG, has surely cleaned up the demand for Nigerian contacts (and QSLs) on all bands, these new hams should not be greeted by the usual pile-ups which drive many neophytes back to their stamp albums.

Your editor is scheduled to try out a Collins KWM-380 this weekend, barring a New England blizzard. Response to our comments on the Drake TR-7 has been good and there appears to be interest in further no-holds-barred equipment reviews, so we will sneak them in as space permits.

Pictured below (cross your fingers!) is Alex, VK5CCT, at the VK9CCT Cocos operating position. Many will remember the long TDXB story we ran about a year on the trials and tribulations of getting on from Cocos. Alex, a flight lieutenant who specializes in radio, radar, sonics, and photography, has made about 2700 contacts in 72 operating hours over the past couple of years.

In the course of his Air Force travels, Alex has also made stops at Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand, New Guinea, Guam, Wake, Pago Pago, and the Phillipines. His main interest, of course, has been activating rare Cocos, with rig help and moral support from VK5QX. Alex says this operating position is typical of what they have to contend with to put VK9CCT on the air, and his back will never be the same as a result. He also wanted it known that he has shed a few pounds since the photo was taken!



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BANDPASS: Call/Freq./UTC (plus West, Central, East Coast report)/Date

Low Bands	GU3KFT/3780/08W/7	TG4NX/3799/02C/3	ZK1XG/7004/13C/5
A9XCE/3507/03E/6	H8JLL/7003/21E/6	UA#2BP/3513/13W/4	ZK1AC/7010/06W/6
G6ZY/	K7CA/	UK9HAC/7807/11E/8	ZP5PT/3795/05W/3
CN/7804/23E/6	HC1/3503/05E/4	UO5OCE/3500/03E/7	ZS1BS/7012/02W/6
CT2AK/3793/08W/7	IS#OMH/3501/04E/7	UF6FK/3504/02E/5	3B8CF/7004/01W/6
KP4KK/	JD1AEV/3798/09W/10	UF6FJE/3506/03E/7	4X4WN/3505/02E/4
DU2/3504/16W/3	JY4MB/3792/05E/3	UH8HAI/3508/02E/5	4X4UM/7005/20E/5
KP4KK/	K6SAD/	UL7GAY/7012/02W/6	4X4UH/7002/00E/8
DU2/3504/16W/10	KH2/7090/13C/4	VP1FB/3777/04W/5	WA7JRL/
KP4KK/	KC6KR/7008/15W/3	VS611/3793/14W/3	4X/7011/03E/9
DU2/7003/12E/3	OA4AWD/3504/01E/7	VS6CZ/3508/15W/10	5N#DOG/7007/03E/6
DU6RH/7006/13W/12	OA4AWD/7004/02E/7	VS6DO/7011/13C/3	7X5AH/3795/04W/8
EA9FE/3790/03C/8	N2KK/	VS6DO/7004/13W/12	8Q7AZ/7006/01W/6
FC9UC/7011/23E/4	ST2/3795/04W/5	VU2TTC/7002/01W/6	8Q7AZ/7004/02E/8
FR#FLO/3790/02E/4	N2KK/	VU2WTR/7005/22E/7	8RLJ/7010/03E/9
GJ3EML/7015/21E/4	ST2/3793/04E/7	XJ8NPS/3795/08W/7	
GJ3EML/7016/22E/8	W5JMM/	ZD8TC/7010/21E/6	
GU4CHY/3507/02E/4	SU/7010/22E/7	ZD8TC/7005/00W/6	

Africa	TU2DP/21291/13C/6	VK4NIC/	6W8HL/21302/21C/9
A22EM/28750/14E/8	VQ9AA/14201/14C/7	3X/21184/19C/6	6W8IH/28009/21E/7
CN8CO/28525/17C/4	ZD7BW/21345/00E/5	VK4NIC/	7P8BL/21292/23C/3
CN8CO/28527/17E/11	ZD7BW/28596/19C/3	3X/21299/22C/7	7P8BL/21293/21E/4
D68AM/21285/19E/6	3B8DB/14218/03E/5	VK4NIC/	7X4AN/21002/20E/4
EA9IE/28573/16C/4	3B8AS/14033/04E/6	3X/21300/22C/8	9G1RT/28510/16C/3
FR#FLO/14227/03C/4	3B8CF/14027/02W/8	5N#MAS/21033/18C/3	9G1RT/28620/17E/11
FR7BP/14250/04E/5	3B8CF/28528/16E/5	5T5ZR/14035/05E/5	9J2JN/14240/04E/5
FR#FLO/14211/04C/6	3B8AE/	5V7HL/21355/22E/4	9J2JN/28750/14E/10
SU1BA/28750/14E/8	3B9/28768/15E/9	5V7HL/28750/14E/4	9U5DS/21276/17E/3
TR8DX/21359/21E/8	3B8AE/	5V7HL/28750/14E/10	9X5AB/14003/16W/5
TU2HW/14292/04E/6	3B9/28750/15E/10	6Q#DX/14216/04C/7	
TU2JJ/14205/02C/10	3D6BS/14218/03E/7	6Q#DX/14219/14C/8	

Asia	HL9KE/14220/03C/4	UJ8BQ/14232/03C/3	4S7NE/14030/02W/8
AP2ASM/14219/12C/3	HS5AID/14034/01E/5	UK8FAA/14006/21E/8	5B4IT/28531/15C/4
A4XGY/14228/15W/8	HS5AID/14034/01C/9	UM8MCC/14022/21E/5	9M2GZ/14241/11C/4
A4XIU/28518/14C/4	JY9RC/14222/15W/8	UM8NAN/14018/02W/6	9M2GZ/21345/00C/7
A4XIU/28510/16E/5	OD5MR/28629/16C/3	VS5RP/28515/00C/5	9N1MM/14208/02C/8
A9XDD/28750/15E/11	TA8BE/	VS#P/28575/00C/6	9V1UH/21371/01E/7
BV2B/14216/01C/4	TA1/28522/13E/10	VU2GYK/14023/13E/8	9V1OI/28547/00C/6
BV2A/14020/04E/4	TALMD/28750/14E/10	VU2BK/28021/13E/7	
W7LFP/	UH8EAD/14010/22E/6	VU2NR/28510/13E/7	
DU2/21048/00E/7	UI8FAI/28750/13E/11	4S7DJ/14208/12C/4	

Elsewhere	JW5RJ/28750/14E/10	KH6GB/	PY9R/14202/01C/7
A35JL/21371/00E/7	KC4AAD/14218/05C/5	KH9/21355/21E/8	VP2MH/14202/04C/10
C21BS/21371/01E/7	KC4USV/14332/04E/6	KH#AC/28520/00C/4	VP8QG/28540/22E/4
C31UN/28583/16E/11	KC4USV/21310/03E/7	DJ5CQ/	VP8ADW/28586/19C/6
C6ADV/28530/15E/11	AH2E/28529/23E/7	LX/28535/17E/3	4U1ITU/28650/13C/7
FM#FJD/28506/19C/6	KH3AB/21028/20C/3	OH2BAZ/	
FM#FJD/28750/19E/7		OH#/14027/00E/6	

QSLs

A9XDD	via K7DVK	TI5EWL	via AG1K
CN8AT	OE3NH	T3AF	JA7SGV
CR9CT	G3KDB	T2AAE	JA2JSF
CT2CE	AG1K	T3#AC	WB6FBN
CT2CJ	AG1K	VP1TC	K5TC
CT2CM	AG1K	VP2MPB	W5STI
CT2YB	AG1K	VP2SS	K1CC
C5ACJ	DL1LD	VP5PZ	N6TR
FG#BCT	F6ARL	VP8SB (79)	G3ZMF
FG#FOL	YASME	WN4FVU/	N4HX
FG#FWK	W1HCS	WB4ZNH/	K4PHE
FM#FJD	W2GHK	YV#AA (79)	YV5DFI
HH2FH	N5AJW	YV#AI (80)	YV3LP
HK#COP	W9UCW	ZE4JH	N4TJ
H31LR	WB3KGY	ZF2DZ	WB3GPR/1
KC6KR	JA8JL	ZK1XG	DL2RM
OA4DW	N4DW	ZK2VU	DL2RM
PY#CW	PY7CW	VK4NIC/3X	W4FRU
PY#ZZ	PY7ZZ	5N3ALE	DK2OC
TI2JIC	AG1K	6C#DX	I2YAE

PROPAGATION

(Thanks KH6BZF)

Date	Flux	Alpha	K
12/22	239	12	2
12/23	234	8	2
12/24	231	2	1
12/25	228	5	1
12/26	228	6	2
12/27	228	13	2
12/28	244	7	3
12/29	225	8	3
12/30	217	12	2
12/31	206	10	4
1/1	196	14	3
1/2	188	6	3
1/3	179	9	2
1/4	173	12	3
1/5	167	7	3

CALENDAR

Grand Cayman	ZF2DX	Now to Jan. 22; Issue 71
Antigua	KA3BLP/VP2A	Jan. 21-Feb. 3; Issue 72
Lebanon or N. Yemen	By N2KK	Anytime; Issue 72 and this issue
Wallis Is.	FWØ	By DL1VU, anytime; Issue 72
Mauritania	5T5RH	By 9G1RT, anytime; Issue 70
Somalia	6QØDX	On NOW; this issue
Guinea	VK4NIC/3X	On NOW; this issue
Montserrat	VP2MS	On NOW by W7ISK/W7EKM; Issue 70
Contest	CQ 160 M.	Jan. 23-25
Montserrat	VP2MEA	By KP2A, month of February, 160-6 Meters
Iraq	Y11JY	Rumored for early Feb; this issue
St. Kitts	VP2KAO/KAP	Feb. 2-7; Issue 71
Heard		Possible mid-February by VK9NS; Issue 70 and this issue
Cyprus	5B4KK	By N2KK scheduled for Feb. 4-11; Issue 62
Easter Is.	CEØA	End of February by W4PRO/W4GSM; details next issue
Competition	ARRL CW	End of February
Convention	ARRL Nat'l	Mar. 13-15 with big DX show; this issue
Competition	ARRL Phone	March
Kingman/Palmyra		Rumored for April; Issue 63
Contest	CQ WPX Ph.	Mar. 28-29
Convention	"Fresno"	Visalia, CA, May 1-3; Issue 72
Contest	CQ WPX CW	May 30-31

THANKS TO...

K9RHY, W1VH, K1KLD, Long Skip, PY7ZZ, WDØEIF, WA2SON, N6RA, W1WY, W4VQ, K5BLV, AK3F, XE1NI, K6IR, WA3DMH, W1JTI, K2OLG, K8MFF, WING, WA4YCI, WØBW, WB8WZS, WA2HZR, W1DQH, W2HAZ, W9QWM, WD5AAM, K4NV, WB8ZRL, WA7OBH, K8GG, W1SD, KALLY, VE1BNN, W1FJ, A11Q, W7ACP, W5GAI, K5RC, W8ZET, N5BBO, WØYK, WB6ZUC, K3ND, K3ZJ, JH1VRQ, WB8BTH, WA9WWT, W9WU, K1FHN.

SOME EDITOR'S SCRIBES

The local professional printer tells me that the new reduced type size will come out OK on this shade of paper (blue). I hope so, as it is on hand and must be used up. When we have run out of the colors on hand (about two more issues) we are going to settle on one color permanently, probably the "ivory" used last week. That is a very common color in the newsletter business, for good reason, as it is easy on the eyes.

We are making one more try at printing a photo this issue, on our primitive darkroom equipment. If VK5CCT appears as just a blob you will know the reason. We are not going to spend money on sophisticated photo processing equipment because that is not what a newsletter is for. If we can do it with what we have, great!

We are presently sitting on three "secrets," awaiting the go-ahead to publish them. It is tough. For what it is worth, one of them involves a Middle East operation from a very rare country, perhaps as early as February, to include several American hams. All depends on how the political situation in that area evolves over the next month or so.

Was I the only one disappointed in the story on China in January QST? Seemed to me it was pretty brief considering that four hams spent a week there.

Just about have someone lined up to do the computer work on the next TDXE "Countries Needed" survey, slated again this year for April. The format will be different from last year, mainly due to your comments and suggestions.

There has been a crunch of new subscribers the past few weeks, many of them sending in at the old rate of \$22.00 U.S. With the postal rates going up Mar. 1, we had to put them down for ten months.

That old Ethics question has reared its ugly head again...we just got a letter from someone in Asia offering a rare zone on 80 Meters. Fine, but the terms for a QSL card are the sending of small radio parts which would cost about five or six dollars in the States. For someone needing that zone to complete 5-band Worked All Zones it would be a small price to pay, indeed, but we have decided to draw the line at this point and not publicize the request. There is a limit.

We have mentioned that the publishing industry in general is in poor economic condition lately. Our mailbox lately has been crammed to the walls with mailings, offers from every imaginable kind of magazine, and especially from those infernal "Sweepstakes." "Yes, YOU, Mr. Cain, have been selected (along with three million others - Ed) to be a finalist in our special contest." Just fill in this form, paste these stamps in the boxes, tear out the magic circle and insert it in the allotted cut-out. By doing this you get on the list of only two million semi-finalists and your name is added to seven more junk mailing lists...

And now Heathkit is peddling knock-down furniture...

Did you know that Kerguelen (FB8X) is where the French test their nuclear weapons? It is less than a thousand miles from Heard Is.

The U.S. and Italy will have a reciprocal operating agreement in another few weeks.

Keep those letters coming! THANKS!